

Resources Agency
1416 Ninth St. Ste 1311
Sacramento, CA 95814



State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I St. 15th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95812

November 15, 2001

Dear :

I would like to invite you to participate in a new advisory group that will guide future watershed efforts in the State. As you may know, a law authored by Assemblyman Wayne and signed last fall by the Governor, requires the Resources Agency and the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to evaluate watershed efforts around the state and report back to the legislature on its findings (AB 2117).

We are convening a small, short-term advisory group to assist us with this important study. You have been chosen because of your interest and expertise in watershed issues. This Joint Task Force on California Watershed Management will meet several times in the next eight months to assist with the direction of the study and to help shape the final recommendations.

The Resources Agency and the State Water Resources Control Board recognize the importance of the many watershed management efforts in the State. We view watershed efforts as serving a vital role in protecting our state's rivers and coastal areas. Watershed partnerships frequently serve to integrate various overlapping programs and mandates, building community and landowner support for management and restoration, and act as long-term stewards for improving watershed health. The Legislative reporting requirement affords the Resources Agency and its departments and the SWRCB a unique opportunity to work across agency and department lines to fashion recommendations for State support of watershed efforts. We anticipate that the report will contain lessons learned from 10 watershed projects around the State and administrative and legislative recommendations. Your participation on this advisory group will help to insure that the research process and the final report recommendations are meaningful to the diverse watershed partnerships around the state.

Maria Rea, Assistant Secretary for Watershed and Salmon Restoration, will assist us in convening this Task Force. Please respond to her by August 14, 2001 regarding your participation. The first meeting will be scheduled shortly. I am attaching a list of the watershed projects that are the subjects of the study for your information.

I really appreciate your participation in the task force and look forward to the results of this project.

Sincerely,

Mary Nichols
Secretary for Resources

Arthur Baggett
Chair
State Water Resource Control Board